

Jordan Times

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Mandela to maintain pressure

ALGIERS (R) — South African black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela said Friday he would tour European capitals starting on June 3 to insist that international sanctions must continue against Pretoria. He dismissed the South African government's abolition of racial segregation in most state hospitals as inadequate because it left gaping inequalities between black and white hospital workers. "Any country that now agrees the time has come to lift sanctions is totally ignorant of what is happening in South Africa or is simply a supporter of apartheid," Mandela told a news conference at the end of a three-day visit to Algeria. South African President F.W. de Klerk is now touring Europe to seek support for his reforms aimed at giving blacks a say in political decision-making, but Mandela said it was too soon to lift sanctions. "Apartheid is still in place. Nothing has happened in regard to its dismantling. The basic issue in our political struggle is giving every South African the right to decide his or her own affairs. We are still very far from that."

Israeli settlement

TEL AVIV (R) — Settlement of more Jews in the Israeli-occupied territories is a major stumbling block to peaceful solutions of Middle East problems, the head of a U.N. agency which helps Palestinian refugees said Friday. Shabtai Shalom, executive director of UNRWA — the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees in the Near East — said in a news conference: "We must believe in the freedom of people to go where they want. But feelings run very high among the Palestinians when they are told that which they think belongs to them. I hear this from the Palestinians and from the Arab governments." He said it made no sense to say that Jewish immigrants were new Jewish immigrants or established Jewish communities. A million Jews live in Israel and close to the border with Jordan, where government has said it will allow Jewish Jews to travel throughout the country. Shalom said he would not allow Jewish to travel to the West Bank, but he would not allow Jewish to travel to the West Bank. He said that Jewish settlements would not go to the occupied territories. But he stressed that "peace is the only solution to the problem."

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Mubarak meets Thatcher in London

LONDON (AP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak met with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Thursday night about the spread of weapons and missile technology in the Middle East, a government spokesman said. The talks, which were described by a spokesman for the prime minister's office as "extremely friendly," also covered the Middle East peace process and Libya. As he left the prime minister's 10 Downing Street office, the visiting president told reporters: "I hope that there will be some improvement in Britain's relations with Iraq." Britain's Ambassador Harold Walker flew back to Baghdad Thursday evening following the explosion of British-based journalist Farid Bazraf. Mubarak later dined with Mrs. Thatcher at Downing Street. The Egyptian president arrived in Britain Wednesday from Moscow, where he talked with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. He was to leave for Cairo Friday.

Radicals oppose Iran liberalisation

NICOSIA (AP) — A senior Iranian cleric Friday urged authorities not to pry or forgive offenders who break social taboos, such as women wearing make-up or men in neckties. Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Ayatollah Mousavi Ardebil as saying: "If someone in Tehran that women who do not abide by the Islamic practice of covering themselves head to foot should not be shown mercy. 'Not even the slightest pity or forgiveness must be shown to those breaking social taboos or displaying bad habits,' said Ardebil, former head of the judiciary. A renewed crackdown on the 'hejab' and 'social corruption' was launched last week, despite President Hashemi Rafsanjani's statements that revolution must be based on the effort to reconstruct Iran's war-torn economy.

Britain appoints new U.N. envoy

LONDON (R) — Britain announced the appointment Friday of career diplomat Sir David Hannay as its new ambassador to the United Nations. Hannay, 54, replaces Sir Cresset Hickel, who held the post for three years and is retiring from the diplomatic service. Since 1985 Hannay was served as Britain's permanent representative to the European Community (EC) in Brussels. He entered the diplomatic service in 1959 and has also held posts in Kabul and Washington. Hannay will be replaced at the EC by John Kerr, 46, a senior official in the Foreign Office dealing with community affairs.

Baker writes to Arab League

TUNIS (R) — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has written to the Arab League explaining Washington's position on the emigration of Soviet Jews and other Middle East issues before this month's Arab summit, diplomatic sources said. In a message to Arab League Secretary General Chadi Kibi, Baker also gave explanations on Lebanon, Middle East peace moves and the situation in the Gulf, they added. The influx of Soviet Jews to Israel is expected to dominate the summit starting in Baghdad May 28.

Egyptian police hold 45 activists

CAIRO (AP) — Police Friday detained a total of 45 Muslim fundamentalists for attempting to stage demonstrations in Cairo and the southern town of Qena, the Middle East News Agency said. The agency said about ten people were arrested at a mosque in Cairo for attacking a preacher and for trying to arouse the worshippers with "inciting chants." It said the detainees wanted to stage a street march protesting the government's appointment of a new mosque preacher. The agency also reported from the southern province of Qena, 600 kilometers away from Cairo, that 35 members of the militant group were arrested for taking to the streets in protest against security measures.

Pakistani premier shares concern over Jewish immigration and Jerusalem

King, Bhutto discuss West Asian situation

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto Friday held talks believed to centre on the situation in West Asia, including the Arab-Israeli conflict and Afghanistan as well as the dispute between India and Pakistan over Kashmir.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, reporting the two leaders' meeting, said that the discussions covered bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern. The agency did not give details, but earlier statements by Bhutto herself and other Pakistani and Jordanian officials have indicated that the Palestinian problem, Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and the occupied territories, the Afghan situation and the dispute over Kashmir were expected to figure high in the talks.

Prime Minister Mubarak Badran, who received the Pakistani prime minister upon her arrival here from Syria, said Jordan wanted to explain to her "what is happening in Palestine, what is happening with the excessive Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine and its implications, not only for the occupied territories and the intifada but also to the Arab and Islamic world."

Bhutto, who is here on the fourth leg of a tour of Islamic countries in a bid to seek diplomatic support for Pakistan in its dispute with India, also referred to the Middle East conflict and Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine. In an arrival statement, she said her country shared the concern of the Arab countries

"over the rising influx of (Jewish immigrants) to Arab lands and the new threats to Jerusalem."

Pakistan's ambassador to Jordan, Tariq Khan Afridi, told the Jordan Times this week that the Pakistani premier would "primarily discuss Kashmir's conflict as well as problems in the Middle East, including the colonisation of Arab lands by the new Jewish settlers."

The ambassador affirmed that Bhutto's talks with Jordanian leaders on Kashmir would not be "directed against any third party, including India."

Bhutto, who is accompanied by Foreign Minister Yaqub Khan, Minister of State for Defence Sarver Chima and senior officials as well as her businessman husband Asif Ali Zardari, renewed criticism against India in her arrival statement. "In Kashmir, a heart-rending tragedy is being enacted," she said, reading from a prepared statement. "Having waited in vain for more than 40 years for the U.N., India and Pakistan to fulfil their pledge to hold a plebiscite to choose between India and Pakistan, the people of Kashmir have risen up to overthrow Indian rule," she said.

Bhutto, the first woman prime minister of an Islamic country, reiterated Islamabad's position that international involvement was essential to resolve the Kashmir conflict, a call rejected by India, which insists that a bilateral agreement reached to 1972 should govern the issue.

India accuses Pakistan of harbouring and arming Muslim separatists in Kashmir, a charge denied by Islamabad. The four-decade-old dispute broke out into open violence in January this year and has since claimed at

least 300 lives.

Both New Delhi and Islamabad have indirectly referred to the possibility of a war over Kashmir, but have also been careful not to further aggravate the situation, apparently opting for diplomatic solutions. However, many observers say that the already tense situation in Kashmir could further escalate and deteriorate if quick action was not taken.

According to Bhutto, a solution lies in the "fulfilment of the international commitment to support the exercise of the right of self-determination for the people of Kashmir."

Bhutto, who leaves Saturday afternoon for her visit Tuesday in Iran, which strongly supports her country's position, and then travelled to Turkey, where she secured additional backing, before arriving in Syria Thursday. In Damascus, she held talks with President Hafez Al Assad and other Syrian leaders, but no clear indication emerged whether Syria, which recently warmed up relations with India, backed the Pakistani position.

According to reports, Bhutto is carrying the draft of a resolution which Pakistan intends to present to a meeting of the foreign ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Countries (OIC) in Cairo next month. The draft resolution, according to the reports, calls for Islamic support for Pakistan's stand over Kashmir, one third of which is ruled by Pakistan and the rest by India.

In their airport statements, both Badran and Bhutto described Jordanian-Pakistani relations as "very strong."

But it was not clear what kind of Jordanian response awaited the Pakistani leader to her quest for backing over Kashmir. A senior official said: "It is only natural that Ms. Bhutto would seek support from all friendly states, and it is our duty to listen to her since we ourselves seek support from friendly countries whenever necessary." The official did not elaborate.

Israelis kill 13-year-old, place thousands under siege

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencia) — Israeli soldiers fatally shot a 13-year-old Palestinian boy during a clash with stone throwers Friday, police said. The boy, who was shot in the head, was taken away by soldiers after the injury.

Mughrabi is the 688th Palestinian to be killed by Israelis during the uprising. He is the youngest of eight Palestinians killed in such confrontations this month. Two other victims were 14.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, an 18-year-old Palestinian was wounded in the leg after troops opened fire on stone-throwing protesters in the town of Khan Yunis, Arab reports said.

The new 30-member police unit established in Jerusalem is named for the biblical warrior Gideon, from the Old Testament

book of Judges, police said. Gideon was known for spying on the ancient Amaleks before waging surprise attacks.

Israel Radio said the unit would work undercover using plain-clothes experts, combat troops and intelligence officers who would mingle with Arab crowds to pinpoint trouble spots. Some agents will also patrol in cars bearing the same blue license plates as Arab-owned automobiles in the West Bank, the radio added.

Police officials said the move was largely an effort to contain a recent upturn in violent incidents in Arab Jerusalem. The city has so far been calmer than most of

(Continued on page 3)

Call for 'transfer' of Palestinians linked to Shamir's coalition chance

TEL AVIV (Agencia) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir Friday faced demands from a crucial right-wing ally to hold a referendum on proposals for massive expulsions of Palestinians, as a condition for joining a new governing coalition.

Shamir's spokesman Yossi Abimeir, reacting in a telephone interview, said "even putting the idea on the agenda (for talks) is out of the question and inconceivable."

Shamir, the head of the right-wing Likud bloc, has another 21 days by Israeli law to try and build a coalition to replace the government that has toppled in a March 15 parliament vote of no confidence.

So far Likud has failed to reach agreement with any of its six potential rightist and religious governing partners for a majority in the 120-member parliament.

The main problems are conflicting demands for cabinet posts and conditions put by extreme right-wing parties to shelve U.S.-backed Middle East peace moves.

Each party has its aspirations and demands and I have to worry about the overall picture," he said. "There are problems... I hope we shall overcome them and Israel would have a government."

Shamir has tentative agreements that would give him a majority in the 120-member parliament. But he has been unable to sign pacts with three ultra-right parties and three orthodox religious factions.

Shamir ran into trouble Thursday when the right-wing Tehiya Party announced it would not join his government because of Likud's failure to meet party demands for government posts.

"Tehiya decided not to join a Shamir-led government. The party will vote confidence in the government if Shamir presents it... we will give it a chance, and later we will vote according to specific issues," party leader Gusha Cohen said on Israel Radio.

Despite the entangled coalition negotiations with small parties, Shamir indicated he asked for extra time because of disputes with potential partners over the distribution of cabinet posts as well as over the next government's guidelines.

(Continued on page 5)

Islamists claim control of Zarka Municipality

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff

AMMAN — Islamists have secured an overwhelming victory in municipal council elections in Zarka, securing eight seats in the 10-member panel and claiming the support of another winner, leaving only one seat for a candidate described as a nationalist.

Official results announced Thursday showed that the "Islamic Action Bloc" clinched eight seats, with its leader Yasser Al Omari securing 9,735 votes out of a total of 21,953 votes cast. Mohammad Mousa Ghuweiri, who secured the third highest number of votes (6,338) under a "Zarka Islamic Bloc" platform, was supportive of the Islamic Action Bloc, thus giving Islamists almost total control of the first elected Zarka municipal council in 12 years, Omari told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview from the Zarka Community College, where he was celebrating his bloc's victory and receiving well-

wishers Friday evening. The lone "nationalist" elected to the council was Ahmad Abu Khurma, who secured 4,730 votes — the 10th highest — against his nearest contender, another Islamic Action Bloc candidate, Khaled Shroor, who won 4,430 seats.

"You can see that the difference was only 300 votes between the two," Omari told the Jordan Times. "The candidate who won the next highest number of votes (3,700) was a non-Islamist candidate, and this is only an indication of the Islamic Action Bloc's popularity," he said.

"We are decades-old residents of Zarka and we are totally aware of the city's problems, and every one knows it," Omari said, explaining the Islamists' strong showing in the city of 63,000 eligible voters and 450,000 residents. However, he could not offer any immediate explanation to the just-about one-third voter turnout for the elections despite a 24-hour extension aimed at drawing more voters.

The government is expected to appoint two members to the council, one of them a Christian, according to regulations governing municipal councils. The appointments are expected to be named before the newly-elected council's first meeting, which Omari expected to be held in two weeks.

Omari said it was up to majority decision by his bloc, which has a heavy Muslim Brotherhood content — five of its candidates are formal members of the Brotherhood — whether he should seek mayoralty of the town about 25 kilometers north of Amman, which has been run by government-appointed committees since 1978.

According to Omari, "there was very little coordination between the committees and the responsible authorities and this was the main reason for the chaotic situation in the city's civic services."

He said the new council would "work in total coordination with the Water Authority, the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) and the Telecommunications Corporation to improve services in the city."

Water supply in the city is one of the major concerns of its residents, who

sometimes have to travel several kilometers to fetch drinking water. "There are major flaws in the fundamental as well as administrative planning of the city, and we have to go deep into the field and come up with suitable solutions," Omari said. Zarka is notorious for its narrow streets, traffic jams and irregular traffic despite intense efforts exerted by the local authorities.

"By no means is Zarka a poor city," Omari said. "Its annual municipal revenue exceed JD 5.5 million, and if properly utilised this could dramatically improve the city's public services."

Following is the list of the candidates who won the elections: ("Islamic Action Bloc" unless otherwise mentioned).

Yasser Al Omari, Abdul Bari Al Hamdan, Mousa Ghuweiri ("Zarka Islamic Bloc"), Mandouh Al Mbeisan, Saleh Daifallah, Mousa Al Zughloul, Zaki Al Deeb, Nabli Al Shishani, Mohammad Uqlah Al Ghuweiri and Ahmad Abu Khurma ("nationalist")

Ministry rescinds ban on male hairdressers

By Ghadeer Taher
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Ministry of Interior has rescinded a decision taken last month to ban male hairdressers from working in beauty salons for women, ending a four-week controversy over the legality of the move.

Hairdressers Association President Anis Naber told the Jordan Times Friday that ministry officials told the association "during a meeting that the ban has been withdrawn and everything is back to normal." He said the executive members of the association were informed of the rescindment Wednesday.

Although Ministry of Interior officials refused to make any formal comment, one ministry official privately confirmed that the ban was no longer effective and the decision was withdrawn.


Minister of Interior Salem Mansur said last week that the ban was a compromise aimed at appeasing more "conservative" elements in society. He said the ban would only apply to men trying to get licences to open new beauty salons. The minister could not be reached for comment Friday.

Naber said that the ministry had assured the association that anyone, male or female, could get a new license for a beauty salon "just like before."

A senior official, commenting on the decision, said he did not expect the ministry to make a formal announcement of the withdrawal of the ban "in order not to make a big issue out of the move."

The ban, seen as a result of pressure by Islamists, sparked a controversy in more moderate circles which prompted some groups, including women activists, to lobby against the move, describing it as a violation of constitutional provisions which stipulate equal rights for men and women in the Kingdom. Spokesmen for the Muslim Brotherhood, which has a strong presence in Parliament with the largest single bloc in the Lower House, welcomed the ban saying it would boost employment chances for women.

Several groups were involved in behind-the-scenes lobbying with the government to bring about a reversal of the decision. However, a 1980 Supreme Court decision against a similar decision adopted by the authorities in Irbid appeared to have been the dominant influential factor to the ministry's move to withdraw the decision.



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Delegation drawn from cross-section of Americans plans 'peace pilgrimage' to Mideast

By F.Y. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — A group of prominent Americans drawn from all walks of life and headed by two renowned former members of the U.S. Senate is expected to make what is billed as a "Pilgrimage for Peace to the Middle East" this month, according to informed sources.

A "position paper" adopted by the group, which begins the visit with a brief stopover in Amman May 22 enroute to Damascus, indicates that the main theme of the "peace pilgrimage" is more or less in line with the two-state solution endorsed by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Arab World in large.

The 40-member group will be led by former senators Charles Percy (Republican — Illinois) and George McGovern (Democrat — South Dakota), and will include former presidential candidate and Congressman John Anderson (Republican), former senator and Arab-American leader James Aboumoud (Democrat — South Dakota), and former members of the House of Representatives David Brown and Pete McCloskey as well as famous cinematographer Robert Redford.

Other members of the group include Canadian Parliament member Ian Waddell, journalist and former hostage Jeremy Levin, actor Mike Farrell, several leading religious figures from the Christian and Jewish faiths, heads of giant conglomerates, former high-ranking officials in the administration and other experts on the Middle East.

According to the group's "position paper," a copy of which was made available to the Jordan Times, the delegation notes that "while the intifada has brought attention and increased appreciation for the plight of Palestinians and the depth of Israeli fears, there has not yet been enough momentum for a peace process, especially in the halls of Congress and the White House."

Underlining an awareness that "American citizens will have to lead the way for our political representatives," the delegation asserts that "a just and moral course of action is not likely to be taken without vigorous public support." It calls for an "independent Palestinian state alongside the State of Israel" through "respect and utilisation of U.N. resolutions... particularly... (Security Council Resolutions) 242 and 338..." and emphasises that an "international peace conference, under the supervision of the U.N. and the permanent members of the Security Council, is the vehicle best equipped and most acceptable to members of the international community."

It was not immediately known whether meetings were scheduled with leaders of the countries included in the "pilgrimage" — Syria, Jordan, Egypt and Israel. Informed sources said the team was seeking meetings with Palestinian leaders in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The delegation will arrive in Amman May 22 for transfer to Damascus and return to the Jordanian capital on May 25 enroute to Cairo. It formally begins a visit to Jordan on May 29 and crosses over to the occupied territories and Israel May 31. After spending four days there, the group will return to Amman June 5 and will leave the next day.

The high point of the "pilgrimage for peace" will be when the delegation will offer a prayer for peace in the Middle East during its visit to the Holy Land.

The trip is organised by the Washington, D.C.-based Pax World

Foundation in coordination with the Cyprus-based Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) and its representatives in the countries in the region.

According to Kjell Jonasson, the MECC representative in Amman, efforts are under way to schedule meetings between the delegation and Jordanian leaders and senior officials. One of the major impediments is the hectic preparations for the extraordinary Arab summit to be held in Baghdad, Iraq, on May 28.

Jonasson said a panel discussion between the delegation members and Jordanian officials and politicians was also being planned, but it was premature to offer details.

Ideas were also explored earlier whether the delegation could join an international peace march organised by the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) and scheduled to take place in early June. However, the idea fell through when the ADC decided to postpone the event until Nov. 29, officials said.

Following is the full list of the members of the "Pilgrimage for Peace to the Middle East" delegation:

Co-leaders: Former U.S. senators Charles Percy and George McGovern;
Pax World Foundation facilitators: G. Charles Rhoads, Charlotte Goodwin and Laura Barnitz
Mission Coordinator: Jamil Shami

Reuben Aaronson: Cinematographer
James Aboumoud: Former U.S. senator
John Anderson: Former member of Congress
Norman E. Barth: Executive director, Lutheran World Relief
Michael Beard: President, National Coalition to Stop Gun Violence
Leonard Beerman: Rabbi
David Brown: Former member of the U.S. House of Representatives

David Boyer: Professional writer, photographer, retired from National Geographic
Charlotte Feinberg Brudy: Trustee, Feinberg Foundation
Frank Breckbill: Board member, Houston United Nations Association: Founder, Building Peace Bridges
Carole Breckbill: Hermann Hospital, Houston, Texas
Leonel J. Castillo: Head of immigration under President Carter

Chairman, Hermann Hospital, Hispanic community leader
William Peter Clay: Assistant to Ian Waddell, member of Canadian Parliament
Scott Cohen: Consultant, Scott Cohen & Associates
Rita Cohen: Sponsor
Hilary Esmonde-White: International foreign policy and trade analyst

Patrick Esmonde-White: Editor, New Voices Radio
Mike Farrell: Actor, political activist
Barbara Good: Retired U.S. foreign service officer, vice president, National Woman's Party
Neal Keny: Former director of Middle East Affairs, Save the Children
Arthur Kobacker: Chairman Pickway Shoes, the Shoe Works, Gussini Shoes
Saul Landau: Senior fellow, Institute for Policy Studies
Jeremy Levin: Former CNN news bureau chief and hostage in Lebanon

Barbara Lubin: Executive Director, Middle East Children's Alliance
David Mahsman: Reverend, The Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod
Robert J. Marshall: Retired bishop; president, Lutheran World Relief
Robert Marx: Rabbi
Nassim N. Matar: H & O Properties

Tom McBurney: Executive vice-president/chairman of Pillsbury Foods International; former chair, Minnesota Public Radio
Pete McCloskey, Jr.: Former member of U.S. House of Representatives
Mark Percy: Vice-president, Charles Percy & Associates
Diane Porter: Episcopal Church Centre
W. Burkette Raper: President, Mount Olive College, North Carolina
Rose Raper: Spouse

John B. Ray: Professor, political geographer, Middle Tennessee State University
Katherine T. Ray: Philosophy/Religion Dept., Middle Tennessee State University
John Rogers: Catholic Priest
Abdul Aziz Said: Professor of international relations at the American University
Richard Schaeffer: Lawyer, Frank Bernstein, Conaway & Goldman

Woodrow Seals: Senior judge, Texas
Kamelah Shami: Educator
Ian Waddell: Member of Canadian Parliament
Barbara Wiedner: Founder, Grandmother for Peace

Following is the "position paper" adopted by the "Pilgrimage for Peace to the Middle East" delegation:

While the intifada has brought attention, and increased appreciation for the plight of Palestinians and the depth of Israeli fears, there has not yet been enough momentum for a peace process, especially in the halls of Congress and the White House. As in other calamitous incidents throughout our recent history, such as the Vietnam war and the excessive nuclear buildup, it is apparent that American citizens will have to lead the way for our political representatives. A just and moral course of action is not likely to be taken without vigorous public support.

Therefore, we, clergy of all religions, political figures, former members of Congress, ambassadors, foreign service officers, public officials, academicians, civic leaders, physicians, attorneys, scientists, writers, journalists, and other professionals declare through our participation in the "Pilgrimage for Peace to the Middle East" our support of the following:

— An independent Palestinian State alongside the State of Israel. The sovereignty of both peoples must be respected and protected.

— The respect and utilisation of United Nations resolutions towards enhancing the efforts of peace in the region, particularly U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338, which must be considered the legal and political grounds for an acceptable solution to both sides of the conflict.

— The resolution of the conflict must be achieved only through non-violent means. The international peace conference, under the supervision of the United Nations and the permanent members of the Security Council, is the vehicle best equipped and most acceptable to members of the international community.



Prime Minister Mudar Badran Thursday receives a Chinese delegation led by Deputy Mayor of Peking Kuwang Chao for discussions on bolstering cooperation between the two countries' capitals (Petra photo)

Peking, Amman to boost cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — A four-member delegation led by Deputy Mayor of Peking Kuwang Chao Friday went for a visit to the Dead Sea, the Jordan Valley and the Greco-Roman archaeological town of Jerash in the company of officials from the Amman Municipality.

A Chinese embassy official told the Jordan Times Friday the delegation members would visit Saturday several development projects carried out by the Amman Municipality and would hold further talks with municipal officials on cooperation between Amman and Peking in city planning and other projects.

The delegation members, who arrived in Amman Thursday, were received by Prime Minister Mudar Badran with whom they discussed areas of cooperation between the two capitals. The delegation leaves for home Monday.

Agreement was reached at the initial meeting on the implementation of an international garden in Amman through joint cooperation. "Formal agreement on this project would be concluded in Peking at a later date," according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Suheimat briefed the delegation on various aspects of development in Amman over the past four decades and later accompanied the delegation members on a tour of the Roman amphitheatre and other projects and gardens inside the capital. The delegation leaves for home Monday.

Farmers to have new federation

AMMAN (J.T.) — All farmers and citizens working in the agricultural fields will be entitled to join the projected Jordanian farmers federation which will come into being once it has been approved by the government, according to Minister of Agriculture, Suleiman Arabiyat.

In a statement published by the press the minister said a draft law on the new federation had been finalised and now awaits official government endorsement before further measures can be taken for its formal establishment in Jordan.

"Once it has been set up, the federation, the first of its kind in the Kingdom, will create branches in all governorates including the Jordan Valley region," Arabiyat said following a meeting by the higher agricultural council on Wednesday.

The council, meeting under Arabiyat's chairmanship, was also attended by ministers of supply, water and irrigation and municipal and rural affairs and the environment.

Arabiyat was quoted as saying that the meeting defined sources for financing the federation's activities which will benefit all farmers' societies in the country.

He said that JD 100,000 have been received out of JD 500,000 allocated for development projects, according to plans announced by Prime Minister Mudar Badran during his visit to the Tafleeh governorate last March.

The governor said that as of the first of the coming month work will begin throughout the governorate of Tafleeh on maintenance of roads, development of water springs, building of agricultural roads, planting of fruit and forest trees and repairing canals, projects which are bound to improve the economic situation and employ further numbers of citizens in the governorate.

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NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Princess Alia attends horse show

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Friday attended the Arabian horse show, held at the royal stables in Hammar to raise funds for the Friends of the Liver Patients Society. Princess Alia said that horse-riding was one of the most beautiful and useful kinds of sports. Princess Alia said horse-riding was part of the Arab heritage and called for directing special care to original Arabian horses and training them to participate in world horse shows. The event is designed to raise funds for the Friends of the Liver Patients Society, to enable it to undertake the necessary studies and support the health education programmes at schools and camps.

ACC transport ministers meet Tuesday

AMMAN (Petra) — The general secretaries at the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) ministries of transport will hold a meeting in Amman Tuesday. The discussions will deal with setting a mechanism and formulas for the implementation of the cooperation agreement the ACC countries signed recently in Amman, which deals with cooperation in land transport of people and goods. The conference, will furthermore, define the subjects and recommendations to be presented to the ACC ministers of transport during the meeting they will hold in Amman in June.

Jordan, Tunisia to boost media relation

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan's ambassador to Tunisia, Tola Al Hassan Friday discussed with Tunisian Director-General of Radio and Television Saladdin Ma'awiyeh means to bolster bilateral

relations in the information media. The Tunisian official praised the existing cooperation saying that during the past few years Jordan's programme and television production occupied an outstanding role in the Arab markets.

Bakhit chairs Euro-Arab talk committee

TUNIS (Petra) — Permanent Arab representatives to the Arab League, meeting here to discuss preparations for a Euro-Arab dialogue symposium which will be held in Amman early next year, selected Adnan Al-Bakhit, vice-president of the University of Jordan for Planning and Community Development Affairs, as chairman of a special committee, which has recently been established to devise means for enhancing Euro-Arab cooperation in the cultural and social fields as well as technical and vocational training and narcotics control.

UNRWA veterans honoured

AMMAN (J.T.) — Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) Ele Saaf Thursday handed over testimonials and medals to seven UNRWA employees in Jordan who have served for 40 years, according to a press release issued by the agency. The old timers joined UNRWA on May 1, 1950 when it started operations. UNRWA has some 18,000 staff members in its area of operations namely Jordan, Syrian, Lebanon, the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as well as in its headquarters in Vienna. UNRWA provides education, health and relief services for some 2.3 million Palestinian refugees registered with it.

Israelis kill 13-year-old

(Continued from page 1)

the West Bank through the uprising.

In the last week there have been at least three firebomb attacks on Israeli buses and cars in Jerusalem and a stoning that injured a small Israeli girl near the old walled city, according to police reports.

Arab nationalists were also believed behind two brush fires that swept fields in Jerusalem and its outskirts since Thursday.

In Hebron, scores of troops searched for two assailants who ambushed an army patrol Thursday night, wounding a soldier.

The town centre, nearby villages of Sair and Beni Naim and Dheish refugee camp remained under curfew imposed overnight, the army said.

Firearm attacks on Israelis have been rare throughout the 29-month-old Palestinian uprising but lack of moves towards peace talks has prompted calls by hard-liners for armed revolt.

NCHA held first meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ed Ben Zaid has said the establishment of the National Council for the Handicapped (NCHA) reflects the extent of attention paid to the handicapped in Jordan and the endeavours to develop the services offered to them.

Chairing the first meeting of the NCHA Thursday, Prince Ra'ed stressed the need to discuss the law-related to the handicapped, affairs and the proposed amendments in order to conclude a supplementary law.

Minister of Social Development, Abdul Majid Saried said the ministry does its best to provide services to the handicapped in cooperation with other ministries and departments.

During the meeting, discussions dealt with all matters related to promoting services provided to the handicapped.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

• Exhibition of paintings and sculptures by five Jordanian artists at Abdul Hameed Shamm Foundation (10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

• Art exhibition by students of Nazareth Sisters School at the French Cultural Centre.

• Art exhibition by Husein Abu Elmagy at the Alfa Art Gallery.

• Exhibition of paintings depicting national heritage, nature and the Arab woman by Laila Al Shawwa at Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts.

• Exhibition of paintings by Kamel Barakat at Goethe Institute.

LECTURES

• Lecture by Dr. Mohammed Javed Rida entitled "oil, education, and the upcoming international struggle in the Arabian Gulf" at Abdul Hameed Shamm Foundation at 6:30 p.m.

SEMINAR

• Opening of a seminar on improving media directed at the handicapped at the radio and television building at 10:30 a.m.

Police nab robbers

AMMAN (J.T.) — An Egyptian national living in Amman and two of his accomplices have been arrested within hours of stealing a car and large amounts of cash and valuables from inside it, according to a report in the local press Friday.

A 21-year-old Egyptian and two of his accomplices stole a car belonging to B.Kh.J. from Um Uthman district while it was parked near the Akhieh School for Girls on May 15, according to the report.

It said that the car owner had kept a briefcase inside the car containing \$25,000, JD 7,000 in cash and JD 18,000 in cheques.

The three thieves stole the car, drove it to Hay Nazzal district, took away the briefcase and shared the money before abandoning the car which was later found by police patrols in the area, the report added.

It said that the Egyptian, identified by police only as A.T.H., who used to work for the car owner and accompany him in the mornings to take his children to school in Jabal Amman, had known all along that his employer carried the money in the briefcase and soon had a duplicate made for the car key which was later used by the three thieves, the report said.

It said on the day of the robbery, the Egyptian and the car owner locked the parked car and accompanied the girls to the school only to return later and find it had vanished.

The Egyptian worker had to admit to having plotted the robbery, with the other two and this led to their immediate arrest and the restoration of the stolen money.

ANNOUNCEMENT

With deep sorrow the Spanish Embassy wishes to communicate the demise of the Defence Attache, Col. Wenceslao de Moya.

A condolences book will be opened at the Chancery of the Embassy on Thursday the 17th and Saturday the 19th of May 1990, between 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

SILENT AUCTION SILENT AUCTION SILENT AUCTION

American Community School

Saturday May 19, 1990

7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Refreshments !! Silent Bids !!
LIVE AUCTION AT 9:00 P.M.

Come & bid on items offered by
The American Community School families
& the Amman business community

Over 200 items!!

Ticket Cost 2 J.D.

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- The position reports to the Company's Headquarters in Europe and enjoys considerable autonomy.
- Ideal candidate should be at least 35 years of age with a minimum of 10 years sales and/or marketing experience in the petrochemicals and plastics industry. Fluency in Arabic and English is mandatory.
- Office location is open.
- Attractive compensation package, company car, other benefits.
- CV In English should be sent to P.O. Box 910078, Amman not later than June 1, 1990, addressed to the General Manager mentioning "Re vacancy Multinational Petrochemical Company".

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

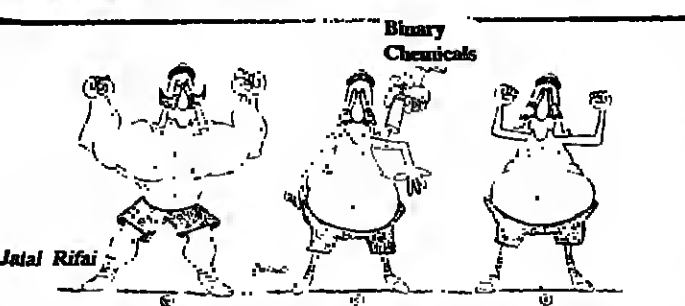
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'Stop' must mean stop

ON THE occasion of World Traffic Week which fell on Sunday banners are beginning to appear on major thoroughfares in Amman reminding drivers that a "stop" sign means a complete stop and not a license to cross intersections without as much as a wink. This is a good start but hardly enough. It is a foregone conclusion that ignoring Stop signs is a major contributor to traffic accidents, and it is too obvious to deserve a comment. Jordanian drivers are notorious for turning a blind eye to "Stop" signs and part of the blame goes to our traffic authorities who are more preoccupied with parking violations than with drivers who whizz through "Stop" signs in utter disregard for normal driving habits.

Granted that educating drivers about the significance of traffic signs must go on with vigour and determination but that alone is not likely to stop one of the major reasons for traffic accidents in the country.

If one examines the record of traffic violation tickets that police met out to drivers periodically there are hardly any mention of "Stop" sign violations. In this vein, the traffic department becomes an accomplice to the raging traffic crisis. There is no sliver of doubt that had our traffic department been more concerned about "Stop" signs, it would have conducted a much more determined effort to eliminate its contravention with relative ease. Post traffic police at random "Stop" signs and watch the number of traffic violation tickets that could be given to drivers who pass through them undeterred by all the rules and regulations governing them. Perhaps the banners festooning the streets of urban areas in the Kingdom suggest that a more vigorous policy against "Stop" sign violators is in the offing. If this is true, then drivers and pedestrians alike have a reason to rejoice. If not then the concerned authorities are respectfully invited to attend to this problem in a much more forceful way. Insurance companies can also be invited to share in the effort to change Jordanian driving habits by hiking insurance premiums on those who are caught violating "Stop" signs. Jordanian drivers can also lend support to the campaign to stop the violation of "Stop" signs by driving more reasonably when crossing the roads and highways of the country. In the final analysis, it is they, the drivers and their passengers, who stand to benefit most from this new policy. Is there a better way to observe the message of Traffic Week than to have all Jordanians cooperate with the traffic department to make Jordan a safer place to drive in?



JORDANPRESS EDITORIALS

Commenting on a statement by the first deputy prime minister of Iraq in Cairo about Israel's plans to launch an aggression on Iraq, Al Ra'i daily said that there is no alternative for the Arab world to mobilise their forces behind Iraq to confront Israel's adventures. The paper said that Iraq is not only defending its own soil, but rather the Arab Nation as a whole; and it is the duty and responsibility of the Arabs to pool their forces and deter aggression. The paper said that it is incumbent on all Arab states to take part in the coming summit in Baghdad because such a summit will not be a mere political demonstration, but rather a real show of unity and platform for joint Arab action in the face of enemy conspiracies.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily writes on the new municipal council in Zarqa and says that its election came amidst an atmosphere of democratisation now going on in the Kingdom. Now that the council has been elected, the people of Zarqa and surrounding areas are looking forward to a new city and a reconstruction process which would reflect the slogans raised by the candidates who won in the elections, according to Badr Abdul Haq. The writer says that the streets of Zarqa are in dire need of rebuilding. The Zarqa children need gardens to play and the city's cultural and social institutions and youth clubs require a new life. This is the task of the new municipal council elected in a democratic manner on Tuesday and Wednesday, says the writer. The council members be says are facing a formidable task of refurbishing their city, and making it a safer and more pleasant town for its own citizens and visitors.

Al Dustour daily criticised with bitterness the United States and the Soviet Union for what it says their collusion to cause harm to the Arab Nation. The paper said that as Washington helps and encourages the process of Soviet Jewish immigration into Palestine it tends to give lip service to the Arabs to appease their anger over the situation. The Soviet Union for its part is providing manpower necessary to fatten Israel and to enable its leaders to carry out their aggressive plans in the Arab region, the paper noted. It said that instead of calling on the United States and other countries to end their support for Israel, the Soviet Union is creating a problem for the world community and asking the U.N. Security Council to solve it. The paper said that the recent developments in the immigration question should provide sufficient proof to the Arabs that the superpowers only care for their own interests, and do not have any regard to the principles of justice and right.

View From Amman

Charles de Gaulle in his century

By Kamel S. Abu Jaber

THROUGHOUT history very few men have had the great honour of having their name stamped on the socio-economic and political doctrine they believed in and advocated. Charles de Gaulle of France was one of this select few with "Gaullism" representing the doctrine he advocated. This year, his beloved France is celebrating his centennial, honouring not only the man himself, but the legacy he so confidently institutionalised in the founding of the Fifth Republic.

With the theme of "De Gaulle In His Century", a series of symposia are scheduled throughout 1990 designed to focus on the elements of stability he introduced into French political life, as well as his impact on Europe and the world at large. One such symposium focusing on his impact on domestic politics was recently held at the new restored great Abbey of Fontevraud in the Loire Valley. The grandeur of the venue of the meet-

ing was befitting the man who, perhaps more than any other Frenchman since Louis XIV, left his mark on France, Europe and the world.

Though a man of mood and charisma, he had a vision of the future. The future not only of his nation, but of the world as well. The vision he held, he executed in a series of policies on the international level and in the institutions he founded at home.

On the international level, he was quick in realising the dangers emanating from the bipolarisation that occurred in the wake of the Second World War, between East and West; thus his policy of independent of Washington and the NATO alliance, emerged. While he was vilified by many Americans, sometimes even ridiculed, for this independent line, his policy had at least three major historical consequences. It provided an alternative to the Soviet bloc within the Western camp, thus reduc-

ing the level of international tension, while at the same time, it tended to deflate American arrogance of power by forcing the United States to think twice before initiating any more that might result in confrontation. In an intensely ideological area, his often anti-American pronouncements made anti-Americanism respectable at a time when anyone holding such sentiments was accused of being communist. This, in turn, made non-alignment of Third World countries acceptable. If France could be non-aligned, why was it then not possible for other countries to do so? The third consequence of his independent policies was his paving of the way for the creation of the future European power bloc which is still in the making.

The emergence of the Europe of the 1990s and beyond, was facilitated by two ideas that de Gaulle held. First, France, indeed the west, must divest itself of its colonies

and reestablish relations with the new emerging nations on a new footing. Otherwise, France would be involved in long liberation struggles that would be both costly and exhausting. In the back of his mind, de Gaulle was aware of the lessons to be learned from France's involvement in Indo-China and Algeria. Against great odds, he taught the French political right, long the backbone supporting colonialism, that France's greatness of the future must depend on ideas, on culture, not the subjugation of other peoples.

His second idea, in which again he succeeded, was the rehabilitation of Germany into the community of Europe, indeed the world. His respect and friendship with Chancellor Konrad Adenauer were the cornerstone of the new Franco-German relationship. This policy, often overlooked by observers, continues to have the greatest impact on international politics. It was not easy

to convince the French, of the left or the right of their political spectrum, that the traditional enemy, indeed the nightmare of France could be trusted, indeed as events later proved, turned into a reliable ally and friend.

De Gaulle's domestic policies were of momentous consequence as well. Like his contributions in the international area, here again, only a few can be pointed out. Perhaps his greatest contribution was the rehabilitation of the French political right for the first time since the Glorious Revolution of 1789. Since the "Ancien Regime", the French right had been discredited, radical and almost always on the fringe of respectability. It is now possible to be non-gauche and respectable at the same time.

Gaullism created a mainstream current somewhere to the right of centre that became successful in attracting certain

radicals from both poles, left and right, towards the centre. This social reconciliation, occurring again for the first time since the fall of the Bourbons, became the basis not only of the present political stability, but social peace and economic prosperity as well. It ended up by making it possible not only to combine the right and democracy as was the case with de Gaulle himself, but also democracy and the left as well as is the case with Francois Mitterrand. He did not pull the rug from under the feet of either side, he merely placed one in the middle.

It is a vision and principle that distinguishes a statesman from a politician or a mere ruler. De Gaulle had both. De Gaulle succeeded like no other Frenchman in changing the direction of France's destiny so it would remain for a long time to come a positive force and a bulwark of stability in international politics.

Right of Return March:

Catalyst to Arab solidarity

By Lamis Andoni

THE "RIGHT TO RETURN" march by thousands to the bridge across the River Jordan last Monday which turned into the biggest display yet of solidarity with the 30-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories is viewed by organisers as well as analysts as a potential launching point for the mobilisation of an all-out Arab popular movement in support of the anti-occupation revolt.

"We expect the march to break the unforfeitable silence and stagnation in Arab support for the intifada," commented an Arab participant in the march who said he was very encouraged to witness such a rally of solidarity in a frontline state.

In fact, the "reactivation" of the role of the Arab masses and popular organisations was cited as one of the main objectives of the march by its organisers — Jordan's influential professional associations and unions. Another objective, they said, was to build popular Arab pressure on Arab governments to effectively extend financial support for the intifada.

An equally important goal was to draw Arab and international attention to the dangers inherent in the massive Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel and the fact that the threats are not limited to the Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip since Jordan could find itself at the receiving end of a forced Palestinian exodus to the East Bank — a prospect against which His Majesty King Hussein has repeatedly warned.

To emphasise the danger confronting Jordan, banners and slogans raised during the massive march to the bridge included this very pointed slogan: "Soviet Jewish immigration equals Palestinian transfer."

Arab and Jordanian political activists emphasised the need for effective Arab support for Jordan's steadfastness "at this point in time more than ever, particularly that Israel must be very much disturbed by the democratisation process in the Kingdom."

"If it was not for the democratisation in Jordan, this march would not have been possible," said an Arab writer who was in Jordan a few days before the event. "Such popular mobilisation must be very worrisome to the Israeli leaders who have always viewed Jordan as a buffer state."

Most analysts agree that the democratisation era is transforming Jordan into a catalyst for increased Arab interaction with the intifada. Seen in light of such viewpoints, it was not a coincidence that the "Right of Return March" was preceded by a two-day conference in support of the intifada and to discuss the means to counter the repercussions of Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel.

The conference was attended by about 70 nominated delegates from professional associations and unions from the Arab World who also took part in the march as representatives of their popular organisations.

being waged in the West Bank and Gaza.

The slogans officially endorsed by the organisers of the march were harsh against the American policy but did not contain any attack on any Arab country. Instead, there was a call for the revival of the "Eastern Front."

In an apparent bid to influence the participating Arab organisations into pressuring their governments to endorse a unified Arab position in support of the intifada and the Palestinian quest, the organisers of the march arranged a visit to the bridge earlier in the day. It was confined to leaders of Arab professional associations and a number of Palestinians expelled from the occupied territories by the Israeli authorities.

The visit proved to be a very moving experience for many. "I had never been to the bridge before," said an Israeli army leader. "To see the Israeli army controlling Arab land and preventing the indigenous people from returning to their land was an experience in itself," he commented to the Jordan Times. "It is always more effective to see than to hear about tragedies."

A delegation from Tunisia, which arrived a little late for the visit, was equally "stunned," according to a Jordanian activist who accompanied the team. They were barely able to control their emotions when they saw for themselves the narrow little bridge which represents one of the greatest barriers," he told the Jordan Times.

Journalists were supposed to accompany the delegations to the bridge, but most missed out due to a confusion over the precise timing and schedule. Many taking part in the march were reported to have raised pro-Palestinian slogans right at the bridge under the very nose of the Israeli soldiers across the river.

Some of them who have visited the bridge earlier reported a visible Israeli reinforcement near the bridge, which was reportedly closed by the occupation forces for about four hours, delaying several groups of tourists waiting to cross.

"The visit to the bridge and the march itself were very emotionally charged," said an Arab unionist. "They put the Arab participants face to face with an aspect of the reality of the suffering of the Palestinian people."

Even the unfortunate violence at the end when Jordanian security forces had to disperse demonstrators from proceeding to the bridge was viewed by Arab participants as a dramatic manifestation of the growing popular frustration, anger and yearning to liberate the usurped Arab territories.

One moving moment, cited by many demonstrators, including those who had exercised self-censorship, was the emotionally choked calls by the organisers and parliament members, including Dr. Mamdouh Abbad, Taher Masi and Fares Nabulsi, for the enthusiastic crowd not to cross the agreed-upon point of the march. "In the name of the intifada, in the name of Palestine, in the name of our martyrs, please return, please do not proceed further," pleaded a number of activists unable to hide their emotions, as thousands stood on the sandy hills facing the Israeli checkpoint defiantly waving Jordanian and Palestinian flags.

The question, however, remains: How effective in practical terms will the march be in influencing and mobilising collective Arab — official and popular — campaigns to help the intifada and to promote its national goals and objectives?

anger at American policies. The final communiqué fell short of urging a boycott of American products.

"Many believed it was premature and perhaps unpatriotic but to a certain extent we have to remember that we still deal with a very highly consumption-prone society," said a Jordanian professional activist noted.

The conference, however, "recommended" that delegations from Arab professional associations be formed to visit the Soviet Union and other countries of origin of Jewish emigrants "to explain both to the governments and Jewish communities the dangers and aggressive repercussions" of emigration to Israel.

Observers could not but point out that the final statement referred to recommendations and not to binding decisions and interpreted it as yet another indication of inter-Arab differences and lack of effective effort.

Inter-Arab differences were mainly evident in the rejection of the Syrian delegation of the final statement. In fact the official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) transmitted its own final statement, which protested at what it viewed "as timid and conciliatory final communiqué." The Syrian delegation was pressing for a more militant statement calling for armed struggle and the liberation of all of Palestine, according to sources. "We told them that we are ready to back such a statement if Arab governments, or at least Syria, was practically ready to start a liberation war or at least open its frontiers for armed operations against Israel," a veteran Jordanian professional unionist told the Jordan Times.

But, in the final analysis, as viewed by most analysts and observers, it is either the lack of democratic institutions, their control by government or weakness which have so far limited the role of the Arab people in support of the intifada.

Moreover, the Muslim Brotherhood's boycott of the march — citing commitment to Jihad as the only means of liberating all of Palestine — was also pointed out by analysts as a factor that might impede the aspired mobilisation process in countries where the Brotherhood is very influential. "On the other hand, their boycott might backfire against the movement taking into consideration the overwhelming popular Arab sentiments towards the intifada," an Arab participant commented.

"Nevertheless, the movement, which has been gaining strength in Jordan — including the democratisation process and the solidarity activities with the intifada — is definitely going to help a great deal in generating some form of action in many Arab countries," another Arab professionalist predicted. "The intifada will no longer feel and should no longer be isolated from its Arab environment."

Distinguished leader

By Dr. Lal Bahai Ali

ON Dec. 2, 1988, Ms. Benazir Bhutto was sworn in as prime minister of Islamic Republic of Pakistan. As the heir to the political legacy of her late father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was prime minister of Pakistan from 1971 to 1977, she has the honour of becoming the first woman to head the government of an Islamic country.

Ms. Benazir Bhutto came to power after eleven years of intense political struggle against the military dictatorship of the late General Zia Ul Haq. In 1977, General Zia deposed her father in a military coup d'état. Two years later Mr. Bhutto was executed, leaving his daughter to lead the political party he had founded in 1967, the Pakistan People's Party.

During a decade of political struggle, Ms. Bhutto spent nearly six years either in prison or under detention. However, despite the restraints placed on her and the ban on political activity imposed by the military regime, Ms. Bhutto continued to mobilise and guide the opposition. In the process, she transformed the Pakistan People's Party into an effective political platform from which she could call for representative government.

Born on June 21, 1933 in Karachi, Ms. Benazir Bhutto completed her early education in Pakistan. For further studies, she proceeded abroad, and attended Radcliffe College in Cambridge, Massachusetts (1960-73), and Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford (1973-77). In December 1976, she became the first Asian woman to become president of the Oxford Union, the prestigious debating society where many international figures distinguished themselves in their student days. She obtained a degree in philosophy, politics and economics. Also completed a course in international law and diplomacy

at Oxford. The early months of Prime Minister Bhutto's government have displayed her understanding of the political art of compromise and conciliation. She has entered into coalitions in order to ensure the involvement and representation of other political parties throughout the country.

Prime Minister Bhutto has ensured the restoration of the constitution, principle of freedom of association by lifting the ban on student unions in the universities, and on trade union activities imposed under the military regime. She has instructed her law officers in to initiate measures for the separation of the judiciary from the executive in order to guarantee the future of independence and integrity of the courts. She intends also to work towards reducing discrimination in all sections of society between men and women. Her government has launched a massive programme of reform in the health and education sectors.

Prime Minister Bhutto enjoys great world-wide popularity; she has become part of popular folklore as a woman of courage and conviction. A place is given to her in the International Hall of Fame in San Francisco, and a wax figure, soon to be unveiled, in Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum in London. She is the recipient of the Bruno Kreisky Award for Human Rights, conferred in Vienna in 1988, and the Honorary Phi Beta Kappa Award (1989) presented by Radcliffe College. Honorary fellowships have also been conferred on her by Lady Margaret Hall and St. Catherine's College, Oxford.

Prime Minister Bhutto is married, and has a son and a daughter.

Dr. Lal Bahai Ali, visiting professor, Faculty of Arts, University of Jordan.

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Ban on male hairdressers — more than meets the eye

By Narmeen Murad

This column was written before information reached the Jordan Times that the government has reversed a decision banning

male hairdressers from working at beauty parlours catering to women.

THE GOVERNMENT'S decision to ban male hairdressers from working at beauty parlours or catering for female clients is not only unconstitutional, it is also a 1990 decision by the Supreme Court rejecting such a measure in the city of Irbid.

Supreme Court decision 24 of the year 1990, published on page 1,619 of the Lawyers Association magazine of 1990 and confirmed again on pages 569 and 570 under article 1,193 of the collection of the Supreme Court principles (second edition) published by the Jordan Distribution Agency stipulates: "There is nothing in the trade licensing law that would ban a man from opening a beauty parlour."

The fact that the country's religion is Islam and Islam does not allow a stranger to touch the "bawr" (translated as private parts in the dictionary) of a Muslim woman does not contradict licensing a woman's beauty parlour to the applicant (who was a man) since there is no stipulation in the license which requires Muslim women to call on the applicant's parlour and (it is left to) every woman who believes in her religion not to allow a stranger to touch her.

Opening a beauty parlour, on its own, does not conflict with the stipulation in the Constitution that the country's religion is Islam and is not a call to violate the teachings of Islamic Sharia, since there are women in the country who do not consider beautifying themselves a measure which would lessen their modesty.

It is obvious from the text of the law above that the government does not have to respond to pressure from the Islamist groups, which proposed this law at the Lower House of Parliament in the first place, and thus infringed upon the civil liberties of a large sector of society whose rights are protected by the Constitution.

Although seemingly insignificant on its own, the government's decision is only a step in a line of concessions to accommodate what is believed to be the will of the Islamists. The government cannot interpret democracy in this manner, as is obvious by the ruling of the Supreme Court 10 years ago.

Obviously, the Supreme Court's decision has larger implications than the issue of hairdressers at hand. It places a clear distinction between the Constitution's stipulation that

the country's religion is Islam and the issuance of laws which limit the personal freedoms of the general public.

The ruling stresses and highlights one of the basic tenets of democracy, which is freedom of choice. The Constitution obviously stipulates that all citizens, regardless of sex or origin, are equal in rights and obligations. So, the Constitution guarantees the hairdressers the right to choose the type of work they want and denies the issuance of a law which would differentiate between one citizen from another in the name of protecting morality.

This is the Constitution that we have been clinging to as the foundation of the democratic march in Jordan.

However, the legal argument does not end there. The Constitution also stipulates that personal liberty is protected. This particular article is one of very few articles in the Constitution that was not tailed with a limiting stipulation governing it by laws. Absolutely no one can infringe on this article in the Constitution; not even the government. This article obviously allows women the liberty to choose the place they want to have their hair done and goes as far as protecting it.

Reference to legal documents and the articles of the Constitution in this matter is not done because hairdressing is a national security issue that needs legal analysis. It is only

because the government's decision is an outright attack on legal norms and on the articles of the Constitution and as such it subjugates women to the whims and fancies of political groups that aim to limit the freedom of Jordanian citizens in the name of democracy and the rule of the majority.

If the government is going to continue submitting to the de-

dominated society is being faithfully represented in the government, which, lost for something to pacify some deputies with, opted to infringe upon the rights of women, who do not matter and will not matter until real democracy influences this country.

The real problem is that the public at large is not concerned right now because this particu-

THE Constitution stipulates that personal liberty is protected. This particular article is one of very few articles in the Constitution that was not tailed with a limiting stipulation governing it by laws. Absolutely no one can infringe on this article in the Constitution; not even the government. This article obviously allows women the liberty to choose the place they want to have their hair done and goes as far as protecting it.

mands of these groups, I am afraid, it will not be long before women get confined to their homes and their "divine role" of motherhood and house-keeping.

The government, which must abide by the Constitution, seems now to be turning against what is generally believed by men to be the weaker sex, women. It seems that our male-

lar decision touches on the men's need to be the decision-makers and only limits the civil rights of women. But what is next?

Will male gynaecologists be banned from treating their patients in the name of morality? Will private companies be required to segregate their female employees from their male employees? Will all men be re-

quired to grow beards and wear white thoub's? Where does this violation of personal choice and civil liberty stop?

Again, the issue is not over male hairdressers and their livelihood or the fancies of women over their looks. The issue goes much deeper than that. It is an issue of the basic human and civil rights of citizens in a country which faces external political and military threats as well as severe economic problems.

The question asked by many who were shocked by the government's decision is: "Have the executive and legislative authorities already completed all the measures needed to rectify Jordan's economic problems?" Only in such a situation would the government and the Lower House of Parliament be allowed to shift their efforts to issues such as hairdressers.

Has the land of Palestine been returned to its original owners, Palestinians (men and women)? Only then would the people who were overjoyed over the prospect of electing persons capable of handling pressing economic and political issues accept the discussion of issues as insignificant to the country as hairdressers. Male hairdressers won't bring Palestine back.

When we are only taking the first steps towards national economic and political reforms, does it seem necessary to the

government to dictate such policies which are obviously infringing upon the freedom of others?

The answer seems simple. Some deputies have made loud pledges to their constituencies to introduce social reform, along with economic and political reform. They feel incapable of providing the more important pledges so they are turning to insignificant issues to show that they are doing something. Well, they are not. And the people will not be fooled by these decisions. When the majority of the public is finding trouble making ends meet they will not be pacified by the fact that their daughters, wives and mothers are not going to male hairdressers.

The only route now open to the women and men of this country who believe in the introduction of a healthy society, economically, politically and socially, is to stand up to these trends and refute them legally. The era of sitting down and waiting should be over.

The men and women of this country have sat down and watched as the Constitution was violated again and again over issues pertaining to the status of women in this society. They watched as the Passport Department required women to provide letters from their "male guardians" allowing them to acquire passports, a right that is

constitutionally guaranteed to all citizens regardless of sex. Women watched as brothers killed sisters, fathers killed daughters in the name of morality and "family honour." These are not issues that only upset women, they upset men who hold their mothers, sisters, daughters and female relatives in high esteem, and who respect the role of women in society. When is it going to end?

It is about time that women in this country started proving that they do not need government-imposed laws to guard their honour or morality. Who, by constitutional right, can dictate that women would not know how to behave if their passports were not governed by male guardians? Absolutely no one. The government ban on male hairdressers proves that there is a last-ditch attempt by the patriarchal society to tie another knot in the rope that has been holding women by the neck in the name of protecting them. Women are able human beings who have been blessed with minds of their own and should be treated as such. It is time that this society started to comprehend that morality and discipline are personal traits that cannot be dictated through laws. And women will no longer be scapegoats for influential men who are looking to pacify political groups looking for ways to pacify certain — but by no means at all — segments of society.

Final hearing set for Monday on 'Qadiani' case

By P.V Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — A Jordanian accused of being a member of the outlawed Qadiani sect of Islam has been given until Monday to produce a written explanation of his intentions when he signed a paper in 1987, seen by the court as pledging allegiance to the mystical group but refuted by the defendant in the controversial case.

The Sharia prosecutor-general Wednesday completed the presentation of documents to the court, including a paper signed by the accused on June 17, 1987, pledging allegiance to the Qadianis. Nour Sharif Court Judge Khaled Ouricqat told the Jordan Times: "It was the third hearing of the case, and the court will complete its deliberations Monday after reviewing the explanation to be submitted by the defendant," he said in a telephone interview.

According to the judge, the accused, journalist and writer Ibrahim Abu Naab, told the court Wednesday that "there was a purpose behind his signing of the documents and this would be explained in the paper he is expected to submit to the court by Monday."

If found guilty, the accused could be ordered separated from his wife and children on grounds that the marriage was null and void in

Islam, his property confiscated and subjected to further punishments prescribed in Islamic law against "apostates," including imprisonment and immunity for anyone who sheds his blood if he continues to adhere to his beliefs. However, the proceeds "could be reversed if the apostate publicly repents but he would have to 'renounce' his wife under a new marriage contract if he wishes to be reunited with his family.

In the meantime, a court decision taken earlier last week to separate Abu Naab from his wife has been withdrawn. Judge Ouricqat said that "the decision was a precautionary separation, and the court requested the governor of Amman to freeze the implementation of the order."

The order was issued Monday at the second hearing of the case, when Nafaa Abu Naab, son of the accused who attended the session, was sentenced for one week in jail for "contempt of court." Nafaa Abu Naab, a young businessman, spent one day and night at the Jawahiri prison before being released after "his father petitioned the court," Judge Ouricqat told the Jordan Times.

But, according to Abu Naab, the order was withdrawn after the governor of Amman contacted various other authorities in the country, including the chief Islamic justice, and decided that he (the governor) could not carry it out. The governor could not be reached for comment. The case is the second in recent

times in Jordan related to the Qadianis, an offshoot of the Ahmadiah sect which was founded in the town of Qadian in Punjab, India, in 1829 by Mirza Gulam Ahmad (1829-1908), who claimed himself to be a "reappearance (buruz) of the Prophet Muhammad, the Christian Messiah and a reincarnation of Lord Krishna, 'reversed as the Lord' protection in Hinduism." According to the Qadianis, "the

prosecution of Qadianis under Islamic law draws its legal base from the Holy Koran and the traditions of the Prophet Muhammad. The World Islamic League has issued a fatwa (religious decree) clearing the way for prosecuting Qadianis under Islamic law, a lawyer noted.

The earlier case heard in Jordan and tried by the same court about six weeks ago involved Taber Kazaq, a businessman. According to Judge Ouricqat, the court found that Kazaq was the leader of Qadianis in Jordan. Kazaq was ordered "separated" from his wife but when he "repented", all proceedings against him were withdrawn and he "renounced" his wife.

According to Abu Naab, the Sharia prosecutor-general, Abdullah Shamsyah, who filed the case against him in the name of public right, is also demanding that the accused be banned from writing as well as from translating and interpreting the Holy Koran.

Abu Naab confirmed that he had attended a world conference of Qadianis held in London in June 1987 after he was approached by the sect for media coverage of the event. "I was accompanied by my son, and I paid for the air fare and

other expenses," he told the Jordan Times. "It was strictly a professional assignment as a journalist. The paper that I signed was only aimed at gaining entry to the closely-guarded sanctuary of the Qadianis with a view to obtaining in-depth information on the sect."

"I was only exercising the right of a journalist to take the various options available to gather information," he said. "It is true that I signed the paper, but the paper does not say that I owe my allegiance to the Qadianis."

"In fact, joining the Qadianis involves a complex procedure," he said. "One has to undertake to pay 16 per cent of his annual income and bequeath 10 per cent of all assets to the sect, in addition to a pledge to carry out all orders issued by the group's leadership. Only then could one be considered a Qadiani."

Furthermore, he said, "my son and myself left the London conference before it concluded since we were convinced that the entire thing was a hoax." "The paper that I signed was apparently given to the court by the Qadianis themselves, who became my enemies after I exposed them," Abu Naab said and referred to an Arabic-language book he published in 1989 entitled "The Qadianis Explode from Within." The book explains the beliefs and customs of the Qadianis, who have a strong presence in Britain, Pakistan and some regions of India and small communities in West Africa and the United States. The doctrine of the Ahmadiah sect, condemned by Islamic religious leaders, includes a contention that Jesus Christ feigned death and resurrection, and fled to

India where he died at the age of 120, and an interpretation that jihad (holy war) is a battle against unbelievers to be waged by peaceful means rather than by violence.

By all accounts, the Qadiani sect, which broke away from the mainstream Ahmadiah group after the death of Mirza Gulam Ahmad, is believed to have a strong financial base and its members are zealous missionaries, preaching Ahmadiah beliefs as the one true Islam with Mohammad and Mirza Gulam Ahmad as prophets. The grandson of Mirza Gulam Ahmad is currently the "emir" of the sect.

The Ahmadiah sect, which is now believed to be stronger in Egypt than elsewhere, including its place of origin, according to some accounts, considers Gulam Mirza Ahmad only as a reformer (mujaddid).

Most Islamic countries have outlawed both the Ahmadiah and Qadiani sects. Abu Naab told the Jordan Times that attending the London conference was his first close encounter with the Qadianis and the gathering "convinced (him) that the sect was doomed" and that he had "told its leaders that the year 1989 (the centenary of the group) will witness the beginning of the end for the Qadianis."

"In fact, Hassan Odeh, a third-generation Qadiani from Palestine, told me in 1989 that my words had been proven true," Abu Naab said. "Odeh was the leader of the Qadianis in the Middle East, and he quit the group in 1989." No definite figure on the number of Qadianis in Jordan is available but knowledgeable sources would not put it higher than half a dozen.

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Shamir

(Continued from page 1)

Shamir ruled out a new alliance with Labour.

"I did not discuss this possibility with Labour Party leader (Shimon) Peres and I think it is not realistic today," he said.

In other developments, Labour announced it would delay by 10 days the publication of an internal report placing blame for the party's poor showing in the 1988 parliamentary elections and 1989 municipal balloting.

The report, which reportedly criticised Peres, was to have been published Thursday. It is expected to boost the campaign by former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to oust Peres as party boss.

Peres Thursday tried to diminish the expected impact of the report, saying on Israel army radio.

"We don't speak of guilt or a crime here but of a theoretical thing, how to run an elections campaign. Some can say it should be done this way, some another. I think this report was lost because of exaggerated, irresponsible leaks."

Rabin, who served as defence minister in the last government, has demanded elections for party leader, he held by next week.

Peres has agreed in principle to a vote but said the party should wait at least until it becomes clear whether Shamir will be able to form a government.

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Manchester United beats Palace 1-0

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Leftback Lee Martin scored the goal that brought a trophy and possibly European success to Manchester United as the one-time English powerhouse finally overcame Crystal Palace 1-0 in the Football Association Cup final on Saturday.

The two sides tied 3-3 at Wembley Saturday and Martin's 50th-minute strike settled an ill-tempered rematch that did little to enhance the reputation of English soccer.

It was United's sixth cup triumph in 10 finals and the result means it may be England's representative in the European Cup Winners' Cup next season if English clubs are allowed back.

They have been banned since

May 1985, when rioting Liverpool fans at the Champions' Cup final against Italy's Juventus caused the deaths of 39 people in Brussels' Heysel stadium.

Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson created the first surprise of the replay, watched by 80,000 fans, by leaving out Jim Leighton, the goalkeeper who will be Scotland's first choice in the World Cup. Leighton was at fault for two of the Palace goals on Saturday.

The first half had all the sour ingredients of the game — gamesmanship, niggling fouls and feuds that clearly carried over from Saturday's 3-3 tie.

Palace striker Mark Bright was shown the yellow card as early as the seventh minute for a late

challenge of Leighton's substitute, Les Scasey, who was on loan from Luton.

And at 27 minutes Palace midfielder Alan Pardew was cautioned for tripping United's Paul Ince.

There was little enterprising soccer. Instead there were unpleasant, clattering challenges, misdirected passes and frequent arguments among players.

Several more players were cautioned for foul play and United's Welsh international striker Mark Hughes became the third player to receive a yellow card.

Palace defender John Salako snuggled Scasey's fingertips with a right-footed drive on 24 minutes and the United goalie blocked a well-struck free kick by Andy

Gray with his left knee to minutes later.

Martin lashed a free kick into the side of the Palace goal netting just before the break.

Michael Phelan, one of five England international players in United's side, lofted a pass over the Palace defense and Martin beat a defender to the ball before firing into the roof of the net from 10 metres (32 feet).

Within three minutes of the goal, Palace replaced midfielder Phil Barber with Ian Wright, scorer of two goals as substitute in Saturday's game.

But it was rejuvenated United that kept pouring forward and England captain Bryan Robson powered a header against the bar from Neil Webb's freekick.

Bin Sulayem wins Jordan Rally

By Nae Sati

AMMAN — The Jordan Rally came to an unexpected end Friday when Suhail Khalifa, driving a Marlboro Mitsubishi Galant VR 4, finished the rally behind his rival Mohammed Bin Sulayem, after leading the rally for the first day and winning most stages on the second day.

The rally turned out to be the hottest event in the Middle East championship this far. Khalifa was out to revenge his loss in the Qatar Rally, while Bin Sulayem was trying to defend his Middle East crown.

"It was a dog-fight between us, the car performed very well on asphalt stages, and I had the lead until I got a puncture on the Fujaij stage," said the Marlboro Mitsubishi contender Khalifa at the end of the rally.

His Royal Highness Prince Faisal gave the start signal for 32 cars that roared off in the two-day event covering 1,055 kilometres and taking the drivers 300 metres down from sea level to the Dead Sea to finish the first leg in front of the Roman Amphitheatre, then out north towards the historic city of Jerash to finish the first day at midnight in Amman.

Khalifa took the lead in the first day beating Bin Sulayem by winning most of the asphalt stages and leading by 21 seconds. Issa Halaby, the leading Jordanian driver, was competing in a Ford Sierra Cosworth and keeping a solid third position ahead of Tony Georgiou, Khalifa's teammate in the Mitsubishi Ralliart

and putting the heat back on Bin Sulayem.

The Russian team progressed with Sergei Bousine and Andrei Georassenkov to third and fourth positions respectively in the FISA homologated cars group 'A' and 'N' while the Jordanian driver Mazen Dajani was leading group 'N', driving Toyota Corolla GT car.

Following are the results for both sections of groups A and N and group S noting that group A and N had to strictly adhere to FISA safety regulations:

Position	Driver/Co-Driver	Car	Time
1.	M. Bin Sulayem/ R. Morgan	Toyota Cel. GT4 TU UAE	3:35:0
2.	S. Khalifa/ M. Al Hajri	Mitsubishi Gal. VR UAE	3:39:11
3.	S. Bousine/ A. Oussane	Lada 21074 SU	4:59:44
4.	M. Dajani/ K. Zakaria	Toyota Corolla GT HKJ	5:29:0
5.	S. Kuzmichev/ A. Malsikov	Lada Samara 21083 SU	5:34:25
6.	N. Dirani/ B. Bustani	Opel Manta 2.0E HKJ	5:52:4
1.	M. Khayyat/ A. Al Mousawi	Mitsubishi Pajero SA	4:57:57
2.	M. Saleh/ K. Khalifa	Range Rover UAE	4:10:19
3.	N. Bustani/ K. Al Kassar	Nissan 240 RS HKJ	4:27:20
4.	M. Abu Samra/ K. Naber	Dezhnev Char. SPL HKJ	4:31:21
5.	H. Tabbaa/ B. Shalabi	Nissan 240 RS HKJ	4:48:9
6.	M. Shishani/ A. K. Abaza	Toyota Corolla GT HKJ	5:9:16

Fenech hospitalisation delays Laporte challenge

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Three-time world boxing champion Jeff Fenech was hospitalised Friday suffering from what his doctors described as a viral infection.

The illness will force the postponement of Fenech's fight against Juan Laporte of Puerto Rico for the vacant World Boxing Council (WBC) super-featherweight championship, scheduled for the Sydney Entertainment Centre on June 26.

Craig Morley, son of promoter Bill Morley, said Fenech had been suffering from influenza for three days, but Friday complained of dizziness.

Morley said doctors diagnosed infections in both ears and had ordered Fenech to rest for at least two weeks. The fighter is expected to be hospitalised at least until Sunday.

A new date for the fight will not be announced until Tuesday, but Morley said the contest may have to be put back until mid-July to fit in with the requirements of the ABC television network in the United States.

Bill Bemon, manager of New York-based former featherweight champion Laporte, said he was hopeful the contest could be rescheduled within a couple of weeks and said Laporte would be staying in Sydney.

Fenech will be bidding to win his fourth world championship when he does get into the ring against Laporte to fight for the title vacated by Ghana's Azumah Nelson.

The Sydney resident previously held the International Boxing Federation bantamweight title and the WBC super-bantamweight and featherweight crowns.

Kenyan favourites fail at Santander meeting

SANTANDER, Spain (R) — Olympic champions Paul Ereng and Julius Kariuki of Kenya were surprise losers in the 1,000-metre and 3,000-metre events at the Santander outdoor athletics meeting Thursday night.

But Briton Peter Elliott's excellent performance in the 800 metres helped make up for the Kenyans' disappointing results and for the last minute pull-out of Moroccan star Said Aouita.

Elliott dominated from the start and romped home in one minute 45.20 seconds, the fastest time this year on the distance.

Kariuki, Olympic 3,000 metres steeplechase gold medalist, was

widely expected to win the 3,000 metres after a leg injury forced Aouita to stay away.

He took an early lead but struggled in third after losing ground to Mark Rowland of Britain and Spain's Abel Anton in the last 50 metres.

Ereng, the Olympic 800 metres gold medalist, also finished a lacklustre third in the 1,000 metres behind fellow-Kenyan Jackson Lokol and Briton John Gladwin.

Nigeria's Yussuf Ali, expected to win the long jump, had to be content with second place in 7.91 metres behind Spaniard Angel Hernandez's 7.94 metres.

YWCA honours winners of tennis tournament

AMMAN (J.T.) — The YWCA spring tennis tournament ended Friday and Dr. Doreen Hinnale, president of the Jordanian Tennis Federation distributed trophies and medals to all winners and participants.

In Friday's games, Kynd Shachadeh and Saba Kassar won the mixed doubles game while Abdelhak Khalifa and Lina Cummings came in second place.

In ladies doubles, Lina Cummings and Jo Ann Donovan won by 6-1, 1-6, 6-3, beating Khair Jallad and Shihra Asfour.

In men's doubles, Abdelhak Khalifa and Samir Rifd won over Kynd Shachadeh and Ra'fat Qaid by 6-1, 2-6, 6-3.

The closing ceremony was attended by the American and Greek ambassadors and other Jordanian and foreign dignitaries.

GOREN BRIDGE

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North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH:
♠ K Q 6 3
♥ K 6
♦ K Q J 10
♣ 8 5 3

EAST:
♠ 2
♥ A J 5 4
♦ 8 5 3
♣ A 9 6 4 2

SOUTH:
♠ A 3 10 8 7 5
♥ 7
♦ 7
♣ A K Q J

The bidding:
North: 1♣, 1♥, 2♣, 3♥, 4♥, 5♥, 6♥, 7♥, 8♥, 9♥, 10♥, 11♥, 12♥, 13♥, 14♥, 15♥, 16♥, 17♥, 18♥, 19♥, 20♥, 21♥, 22♥, 23♥, 24♥, 25♥, 26♥, 27♥, 28♥, 29♥, 30♥, 31♥, 32♥, 33♥, 34♥, 35♥, 36♥, 37♥, 38♥, 39♥, 40♥, 41♥, 42♥, 43♥, 44♥, 45♥, 46♥, 47♥, 48♥, 49♥, 50♥, 51♥, 52♥, 53♥, 54♥, 55♥, 56♥, 57♥, 58♥, 59♥, 60♥, 61♥, 62♥, 63♥, 64♥, 65♥, 66♥, 67♥, 68♥, 69♥, 70♥, 71♥, 72♥, 73♥, 74♥, 75♥, 76♥, 77♥, 78♥, 79♥, 80♥, 81♥, 82♥, 83♥, 84♥, 85♥, 86♥, 87♥, 88♥, 89♥, 90♥, 91♥, 92♥, 93♥, 94♥, 95♥, 96♥, 97♥, 98♥, 99♥, 100♥.

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All Romanian citizens living in Jordan as well as those who will be in that day in Jordan can exercise their constitutional rights at the Embassy of Romania in Amman (Shmeisani, Jabal Al Weibdeh Al Gharbi, tel. 667738) on Sunday, May the 20, 1990, between 6 a.m. - 11 p.m. They are kindly asked to have with them their Romanian passports or any other document proving their Romanian citizenship.

AMBASADA ROMANIEI DIN IORDANIA REAMINTESTE TUTUROR CETATENILOR ROMANI CA DUMINICA, 20 MAI 1990, INTRE ORELE 06-23.00, IN ROMANIA VOR AVEA LOCALE LIBRE PENTRU DESEMNEAREA PRESEDINTELUI REPUBLICII, A MEMBRILOR SENATULUI SI A ADUNARII DEPUTATILOR. CETATENII ROMANI DOMICILIATI IN IORDANIA SAU CARE SE VOR AFLA IN ACEASTA ZI IN IORDANIA ISI VOR PUTEA EXERCITA DREPTURILE CONSTITUTIONALE LA SEDIUL AMBASADEI ROMANIEI DIN AMMAN (SHEMEISANI, JABAL AL WEIBDEH AL GHARBI, TEL. 667738), DUMINICA, 20 MAI, 1990, INTRE ORELE 06-23.00. CETATENII ROMANI SINT RUGATI SA SE PREZINTE LA VOT CU PASAPORTUL SAU UN ALT DOCUMENT CE DOVEDESTE CETATENIA ROMANA.

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Communist past could thwart Iliescu party's coalition offer

BUCHAREST (R) — Romania's ruling National Salvation Front (NSF) has offered to form a broad coalition government after multi-party elections this Sunday, but the Communist past could leave the NSF without partners.

Opinion polls predict a majority for the leftist NSF led by presidential frontrunner and interim head of state Ion Iliescu in the first free vote in Romania for 53 years.

The front has said a national coalition is the best way to rebuild the ruined economy and to erase the legacy of totalitarian rule.

The signs are, however, that such a coalition would be hard to create. The opposition is wary of the links of ex-Communist Iliescu and other leading NSF members to the Ceausescu era and suspicious that the front hijacked control of last December's popular uprising against Communism in a backstage coup.

None of the three main opposition parties have committed themselves to sharing power with the NSF — the National Liberals are evasive on it, the Social Democrats are reserved, and the National Peasants Party has ruled it out.

"We salute the NSF offer to

share power but we have major reservations," Social Democrat spokesman Vadim Aroneanu said.

"The last contested elections in 1946 taught us a bitter lesson. Then the Communists offered to form a government coalition which ended in the elimination of their partners."

The three parties were suppressed in the late 1940s but were revived in January after Ceausescu's overthrow and execution.

Radu Campeanu, Iliescu's Liberal opponent in the presidential race, said in a televised campaign debate Thursday that a coalition would be possible only "when there is a total break with the former Communist system."

His party has said a strong opposition to the NSF, linking the three historical parties on a common policy platform, may be more important to cement democracy.

Its goal would be "to put up a joint, constructive opposition and draft a democratic constitution which should bar any possible return to Communism," Liberal Vice-President Ioan Sandulescu told Reuters.

The right-wing Peasants Party dismisses the front outright as neo-Communist but it has said it would be ready to join the Liberals and Social Democrats in gov-

ernment or opposition.

"They have a well-defined democratic tradition and we do not expect any of them to militate for dictatorship," Peasants Party parliamentary candidate Rasvan Dobrescu said.

Only a handful of the 82 parties contesting Sunday's elections are expected to win seats in the 387-member assembly of deputies and the 119-member senate.

Opinion polls predict the front will win about 60 per cent of the vote but if forecasts are wrong, as the NSF's opponents maintain, smaller parties could gain a pivotal bargaining role.

Chief among them is the Hungarian Democratic Union (H DU), flag bearer of the Hungarian ethnic minority with a constituency of up to one million of Romania's 16 million voters.

The H DU has shifted away from initial backing for the front and one of its leading figures, Carol Kiraly, appealed to ethnic Hungarians Thursday not to vote for Iliescu as president.

Kiraly, an interim vice-president responsible for Romania's 14 ethnic minorities, said on Hungarian-language radio that Iliescu had failed to fulfill promises to defend minority rights.

Meanwhile, an election rally in Timisoara, birthplace of the Romanian revolution, ended

Senate approves law limiting chemical weapons

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate approved legislation without dissent requiring the president to impose sanctions against countries that violate international agreements barring chemical and biological weapons.

By a vote of 92-0, the Senate Thursday adopted the bill despite the threat of a possible veto by President George Bush.

The United States and Soviet Union are negotiating cuts in the superpower stockpiles of chemical weapons and reductions in strategic and conventional forces.

But lawmakers said they are concerned about the proliferation of the weapons among Third World countries.

"We have learned anew in recent years of the ghastly and indisputable horror of the use of chemical weapons in violation of international law," said Sen. Claiborne Pell, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"We must not apply a lesser standard against chemical weapons use than the use of nuclear weapons."

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has vowed to use chemical weapons against Israel if the Jewish state launches a nuclear attack.

"Many months ago, I said that the evil genie of chemical weapons is already out of the bottle," said Senate Republican leader Bob Dole of Kansas. "It's even more critical today that we do everything we can to see that the genie does not spread its poison more widely."

The bill says that as many as 20 nations are capable of producing chemical weapons and that by the year 2000, at least 15 developing countries will have the ability to produce ballistic missiles capable of delivering the weapons.

U.S., Philippines fail to settle future of bases

MANILA (R) — The United States and the Philippines failed after five days of talks Friday to settle the future of major American military bases in the country.

But a joint statement said they had solved a conflict over compensation and would hold further negotiations on the future of their entire political and security relationship.

No date for the next round of talks was announced.

Hours before the latest talks ended, four men in a speeding taxi fired two rifle grenades at U.S. offices in Manila. Only one grenade exploded, on the fourth-floor window ledge of the building that houses the Thomas Jefferson Library, causing "minimal damage to property," the U.S. embassy said.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack. Earlier attacks on U.S. targets have been the work of the New People's Army, a Communist guerrilla group demanding withdrawal of the bases.

President Corason Aquino had suggested holding this week's exploratory talks to decide whether or not to negotiate a new treaty on America's largest overseas military facilities.

But at the end, spokesman for both governments said there had been no decision on whether to go ahead with talks on a treaty that would allow Washington to keep Clark Air Base, Subic Bay Naval Base and four smaller installations.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus told reporters agreement on the compensation issue meant the two sides could now go forward to hold discussions on the future of bilateral relations.

He said the Manila decision to terminate the current military bases agreement in September, 1991, signalled an end to the "uneven day of lingering colonialism. Henceforth, we shall march forward with our friends abreast, not in tandem."

"It is a new relationship. Let us move on to strengthen it," he said.

Meanwhile, troops arrested three alleged Communist guerrillas, one of whom is believed to have been involved in the weekend killing of two American airmen near a U.S.-run air base, a military officer said Friday.

Officials said they also seized documents indicating the rebels plan to continue attacks.

Record price paid for Japanese netsuke

LONDON (AP) — A collector paid a record \$154,000 (\$260,337) for a Japanese netsuke ornament, Sotheby's auction house has announced. The carved ivory statue, dated from the late 18th century, Sotheby's spokeswoman Beth McHattie said Thursday. Netsuke are toggles used in traditional Japanese dress to hold purses onto waist cords. Another netsuke, showing a wild boar sucking its young, sold for \$92,500 (\$156,371), Ms. McHattie said. She said the netsuke, by artist Masanaga, was discovered at a country auction.

Iranian wins poker tournament

LAS VEGAS (AP) — An Iranian accountant now living in England came back from the brink of disaster twice Thursday to outlast a Reno, Nevada, poker player and win the \$835,000 first prize in the world series of poker. Mansour Matlouhi used an anti-climatic pair of sixes on the final hand to top a pair of fours held by Hans "Tuna" Lund and win the final Texas Hold'em event in the competition that crowns the world's poker champion. The final hand win capped a remarkable comeback that saw Matlouhi, playing in his first championship game, twice draw the card he needed to stay in the game on the final draw after he had each time put all his chips into the pot. "I was dead," Matlouhi said. "But when the chips went in every time I had the best hand." Lund had appeared to have the edge after 192 of the players who put in \$10,000 apiece to enter the event had lost their chips and only he and Matlouhi were left to go head-to-head.

Most charges dropped against Helmsley

NEW YORK (AP) — A tax fraud indictment against Leona Helmsley was gutted by a judge who said state prosecutors were putting the self-styled hotel queen in double jeopardy. State Supreme Court Justice John Bradley said he dropped 180 of the 188 counts in the indictment because they are similar to those on which Mrs. Helmsley was tried in federal court last August. The court threw out the heart and soul of the state's case, said Alan Dershowitz, lead lawyer for Mrs. Helmsley's legal team. "New evidence will demonstrate that Mrs. Helmsley did not evade taxes," he said. "I'm very happy," Mrs. Helmsley, 70, said tearfully as she left court after hearing Bradley's ruling. She suggested that the case against her was brought only because of her prominence. They're after my hide, she said. "I'm Leona Helmsley. I hold my head high because I know that I am an innocent person falsely accused and terribly maligned," she said.

Prize offered for proof of Loch Ness monster

LONDON (R) — A London bookmaker offered a £250,000 (\$422,500) prize Thursday to anyone proving the legendary Loch Ness monster really exists. In the last 60 years more than 800 sightings of Nessie have been reported but there is still no concrete evidence that a giant creature lurks in the Scottish lake. Bookmakers William Hill said the prize would be up for grabs during a three-day monster hunt it is sponsoring with local tourist authorities in October.

Stadium sex leads to new rules at hotel

TORONTO (R) — A couple who made love in a hotel room in full sight of a packed baseball stadium have forced the hotel to warn guests they can be seen by the crowd. The Skydome Hotel, built inside Toronto's new stadium, has 70 rooms that give a direct view of the playing field. The couple's sexual performance was a highlight of Tuesday's game between the local Blue Jays and the Seattle Mariners. "There isn't a more exciting way to watch a baseball game, but for some people it's more exciting than others," Hotel Manager Ray Thompson said. "What our guests do behind closed doors is their own business as long as it's not criminal and there's no damage. But when there are witnesses the guests are subject to immediate eviction and possible criminal charges." In an earlier incident a guest committed an indecent act in full view of the crowd in the belief that the bedroom window was one-way glass.

Superpowers report arms control treaty

MOSCOW (Agencies) — U.S. and Soviet officials said Friday they had made strides towards reaching an agreement on a treaty to reduce the superpowers' arsenals of long-range nuclear weapons.

"We have always believed the superpowers should reach an agreement on reducing the superpowers' arsenals of long-range nuclear weapons," said U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. "Things are moving in that direction."

Baker also gave an upbeat assessment after nearly five hours of talks with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Shevardnadze.

The U.S. and Soviet negotiators are trying to reach an agreement on reducing the superpowers' arsenals of long-range missiles, bombers and submarines in time for Gorbachev's summit with U.S. President George Bush in Washington from May 31-June 3.

"We did a lot," Shevardnadze said. "We accomplished a lot today."

On another arms-control front, the Soviet foreign minister told reporters that "major progress" had been made on a U.S.-Soviet accord to end production of chemical weapons.

Last week, Bush offered to halt U.S. production of chemical weapons if the Soviets were willing to schedule the destruction of their poison gas stockpiles. Shevardnadze gave no details of the emerging accord.

Between his talks with Gorbachev and Shevardnadze, Baker said that "some progress" had been made, though he added,

Liberian rebel chief excludes immediate elections

TAPETA, Liberia (AP) — Villagers waving palm fronds welcome him as a savior. Rebel pamphlets call him "the hope of Liberia." The bureaucrat turned guerrilla leader says he is a God-fearing Baptist who will not become another African dictator.

U.S.-educated rebel leader Charles Taylor is still wanted in Massachusetts for breaking out of jail to avoid extradition to Liberia, but says he wants better relations with the United States.

Taylor presented himself at his first international news conference this week as a friend of the capitalist West and a leader who can restore democracy, honest government, pride and Christian values to a nation destroyed by 10 years of corrupt rule under President Samuel Doe.

But Taylor said his plans for democracy do not include elections for at least three and maybe five years. Until then he said he will "go to hell" rather than share power with other opposition leaders who have not joined his fight against Doe.

"Don't think we are going to turn government over to someone to screw up," Taylor said. Pointing to his ragtag group of armed guerrillas, he added, "We have political ambitions, too."

Taylor invited nine foreign journalists to Tapeta, in the heart of rebel-held territory about 160 kilometers northeast of Monrovia, the capital. Reporters were driven to an American-owned rubber plantation in rebel hands just 72 kilometers east of Monrovia to dramatize Taylor's threats that he will attack the capital soon.

Taylor's promises of elections in a few years are similar to pledges that have led to dictatorships in other African countries, including Liberia. Doe promised democracy when he seized power in a bloody 1980 coup, toppling an elite group of descendants of freed American slaves who founded Liberia in 1847.

At the time of the coup, Taylor said he had been chairman for 10 years of the U.S.-based National Liberian Liberation Movement that helped Doe overthrow President William Tolbert.

"That boy was supposed to return his little self to the barracks and he reneged," said Taylor, referring to Doe.

Taylor said he was inducted into Doe's army as a major in 1980 and placed in charge of a bureau that disbursed government funds. He said he fled to the United States later because of disagreements with Doe, who accused him of stealing \$1 million.

He was arrested in Boston and held for extradition to Liberia in 1984, but escaped from jail.

Taylor said his National Patriotic Front of Liberia has constantly sought contacts with the U.S. government, until recently a strong supporter of Doe.

"The United States has permanent interests in Liberia, and not permanent friends... I would hope that we would have a real good marriage and a real good honeymoon," Taylor said.

White man found guilty in New York murder

NEW YORK (AP) — A jury has found a 19-year-old white man guilty of second-degree murder in the killing of a black teenager in Bensonhurst, the most serious of a recent spate of racial confrontations in New York City.

Joseph Fama of Brooklyn, accused of being the triggerman in the killing of 16-year-old Yusuf Hawkins, faces a maximum sentence of 25 years to life in prison.

Jury forewoman Tonya Bailey delivered the verdict late Thursday after 10 tension-wrought days of deliberations.

Hawkins and three friends were going to look at a car that was for sale when they were attacked by a gang of whites last Aug. 23 in the mostly white Bensonhurst section of New York.

The verdict, the first conviction in the case, was greeted with shouts outside the courtroom by Hawkins' family and supporters.

Mayor David N. Dinkins said in a statement that the guilty verdict allows "us to turn our attention to the process of healing."

"Yusuf Hawkins died of racism in the first degree. That is a crime far more common than most of us are willing to admit," the city's first black mayor said.

Fama was found guilty on 13 of 15 counts, including second-degree murder by depraved indifference to human life, riot, unlawful imprisonment, menacing, discrimination, and criminal possession of a weapon in the third degree.

The defendant was acquitted of second-degree intentional murder — the equivalent in seriousness of the depraved indifference charge — as well as criminal possession of a weapon in the second degree.

A second jury considering charges against co-defendant Keith Mondello, who was tried in the same courtroom as Fama, ended its deliberations Thursday without reaching a verdict.

Chinese leader says Tiananmen Square 'much ado about nothing'

NEW YORK (R) — Chinese Communist Party leader Jiang Zemin, in what was described as his first television interview since coming to power, called the crackdown on demonstrators in Tiananmen Square "much ado about nothing" and said 431 people, including 42 students, were still in prison.

In a taped interview with Barbara Walters of ABC's "20/20" programme, Jiang also spelled out conditions under which dissident Fang Lizhi could leave the U.S. embassy in Peking, where he has been living since the crackdown, and said ousted Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang, who sympathized with the students, would not be brought to trial.

Walters asked Jiang, who is also chairman of the Central Military Commission, if he had a Chinese proverb to describe the Tiananmen crackdown. "To give a Chinese proverb, I would say that it's like 'much ado about nothing,'" he said.

The programme aired Friday night. ABC said it was Jiang's first television interview since coming to power after the crackdown last June.

Jiang said, "I don't have any regrets about the way in which we dealt with the events which took place last year in Peking. Had we failed, in the end, to take resolute measures to deal with those events, then the entire capital of the People's Republic of China would have been thrown into great chaos."

But he said he did not think a violent crackdown on similar pro-democracy demonstrations would take place again.

"We have a proverb in China, 'a fall into the pit, a gain in your wit,'" he said. "I think we learn by our mistakes; that is, we have made adequate preparations in terms of strengthening the police force and storing non-lethal weapons. In this regard, I am ready to learn from all the developed Western countries."

Jiang said 431 people, including 42 students, were still in prison "under investigation" over the crackdown.

Tens of thousands of students demonstrated in the Peking square before troops moved in, reportedly killing hundreds. Chinese officials deny anyone was killed in the square itself.

Jiang said there were no executions linked to the square and students abroad would be safe if they returned home.

"One fact has to be made clear. During the incident, nearly 10,000 armoured personnel car-

riers, army trucks and tanks were burned. And this shows the People's Liberation Army exercised great tolerance and restraint during the incident," he added.

He said that dissidents Fang Lizhi and his wife, who took refuge in the U.S. embassy in Peking, could be allowed to leave the country if they admitted their guilt and the United States guaranteed that Fang would not engage "in activity in the future against the People's Republic of China."

Meanwhile in Mexico City, Chinese President Yang Shangkun was quoted Thursday as saying last year's bloody crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators represented a triumph for socialism.

"It didn't hurt Chinese socialism," Yang said in remarks to the Mexican news agency Notimex when asked about the military crackdown in and around Tiananmen Square.

"It strengthened the government's faith in the Socialist system and allowed us to dismantle the seditious plots."

Yang arrived Monday for a four-day visit on the first leg of a Latin American trip that will also take him to Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina and Chile.

Gorbachev signals flexibility in Baltics

MOSCOW (AP) — President Mikhail Gorbachev said Friday the Kremlin was prepared to examine any possibility to resolve the dispute over Lithuanian independence — provided the Soviet constitutional process is observed.

The prime minister of the breakaway republic, Kazimieras Prunskiene, said after meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker that she was convinced he supports the Baltic republic's independence drive.

Baker said he hoped that a meeting between Gorbachev and Prunskiene Thursday would lead to full negotiations aimed at ending the impasse between the Kremlin and the breakaway republic.

Tension was reported Friday in Lithuania, however. Soviet soldiers shot a youth trying to enter a military compound and military helicopters dropped leaflets proclaiming: "Down with the government of separatists. Long live Soviet Lithuania."

Military officials have complained of several rock-throwing or sniper attacks on Soviet soldiers at military installations. Moscow has used the military to make repeated shows of force in Lithuania in the past.

Supporters of independence gathered around the Lithuanian parliament building Friday to block any attempt by pro-Soviet forces to occupy it, said Eduards Potashnikas, an editor at Lithuanian television.

On Tuesday, Soviet soldiers and anti-independence protesters tried to occupy government

buildings in the two other Baltic republics, Estonia and Latvia, but were blocked by supporters of secession.

Gorbachev has condemned the independence declarations of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, and imposed economic sanctions against them. Until his meeting with Prunskiene Thursday night, the Soviet president had refused to open talks with Baltic leaders, demanding that they first rescind or suspend their independence moves.

After Prunskiene met with Gorbachev, she said significant progress was made towards a settlement. But neither side suggested that the dispute that followed the republic's March 11 declaration of independence had been settled.

Her meeting Friday with Baker lasted for more than four hours, twice as long as planned. She said later that she had told Baker about Lithuania's compromise plan and her talks with Gorbachev.

"I became convinced again that the USA as well as other governments support both the restoration of independence and the path we are taking," she said at the gate of Spaso House, the residence of the U.S. ambassador in Moscow.

Prunskiene said she thought Gorbachev agreed to meet with her because of Baker's presence in Moscow. Baker is negotiating with Soviet officials to try to forge arms-control agreements for a summit in Washington between Gorbachev and U.S. President George Bush later this month.

Renoir becomes second most expensive painting

NEW YORK (Agencies) — A Renoir painting of an outdoor Parisian dance hall that some thought might sell for more than \$100 million went for \$78.1 million at Sotheby's auction house Thursday night.

The price set a record for a Renoir but fell \$4.4 million short of the record for the world's most expensive painting, set Tuesday at Christie's when Van Gogh's Portrait of Dr. Gachet fetched \$82.5 million.

Au Moulin de la Galette, by Pierre-Auguste Renoir, sold to an unidentified bidder after 10 minutes of tension-filled bidding from two potential buyers on the telephone. The bidding jumped up in million-dollar increments and the crowd gasped and broke into applause when the hammer finally came down.

"Galette became the second most expensive painting of all time, surpassing the \$53.9 million that Van Gogh's *Irises* fetched in 1987 when it set a record that stood until last Tuesday."

Many dealers had thought that following the Gachet sale the Renoir might become the first \$100 million painting.

Sotheby's auction experts, who had estimated the painting would go for between \$40 million and

\$50 million, said they were pleased with the sale.

"I was thrilled, just thrilled," said Sotheby's impressionist expert David Nash. "I personally thought it might hit \$65 million, but it even exceeded that."

"It's a big, big price," said New York art dealer Doug Walla. "But I think it justified it."

Despite repeated requests from an overflowing press and media gallery after the sale, Sotheby's President Diana Brooks said she could not reveal the identity of the buyer, or even the nationality.

After the Gachet sold to Tokyo art dealer Hideto Kobayashi speculation was that the Renoir would go to a Japanese buyer.

Renoir painted the piece in 1876 as one of two studies of the Bohemian dance hall at the top of Rue Montmartre.

"The Renoir was a special painting. It's much more distinctive than the Gachet," said Walla. "It is the kind of painting one learns from and grows up with in terms of art history."

The Renoir was sold from the collection of New York financier and publisher John Hay Whitney, who died in 1982. Whitney bought it in 1929 in New York for

\$165,000.

The Van Gogh painting sold in New York for a record \$82.5 million was one of several removed from display by the German Nazis in a pre-war purge of non-Aryan art, an expert said Thursday.

"They wanted classical 19th century German art and not anything that was modern," said Stefan Mann, a researcher at Frankfurt's Staeedel Museum.

Mann told Reuters that Van Gogh's Portrait of Dr. Gachet had hung in the Staeedel Museum from 1911, when it was bought from a Frankfurt collector, until 1938, when it was removed by Hitler's Nazis.

"There were three reasons they didn't want it on display in Germany. Firstly, Van Gogh was foreign, secondly, he was considered mentally ill and thirdly they didn't want any decadent art," Mann said. He said the painting was sold at auction in Lucerne, Switzerland, though the Nazis probably did not make much from the sale. "Certainly not as much as it's worth now," said Mann.

The honorary chairman of a major Japanese paper company is the buyer of the world's most

expensive painting, the economic newspaper Nihon Keizai said Thursday.

The paper quoted Ryoei Saito, 74, as saying in an interview that the painting "was 5 billion yen (\$33 million) higher than what I expected. But I am extremely pleased with the purchase."

Saito and officials of Daishowa Paper Manufacturing Co., Japan's second largest paper manufacturer, could not be reached for comment after office hours Thursday. Saito was president of Daishowa paper from 1961 to 1982.

Nihon Keizai said Saito commented that "I have been collecting paintings for 40 years, but I wanted to own this Van Gogh painting. Therefore, I asked to make a successful bid no matter how expensive it was."

Saito said he borrowed the money from banks, using his property as security, the paper added.

Asked about the possibility of displaying the painting to the public, Saito said, "I will keep it at hand for the time being for various security reasons. However, I would like to display it at the local Shizuoka Prefectural Art Museum in the future," the paper reported.

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